

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ALGIER 01661 040638Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 XMB-02 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-15 H-01 INR-10
INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-11
OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /141 W
-----071405 041052Z /15

R 031254Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8628
INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TANGIER
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMCONSUL ORAN POUCH
AMCONSUL PALERMO POUCH
AMCONSUL SEVILLE POUCH

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DEPARTMENT PASS EXIMBANK

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, AG
SUBJECT: SONATRACH PUSHING STUDY OF ALGERIA/SPAIN GAS PIPELINE

1. WE UNDERSTAND FROM U.S. FIRM BIDDING ON MARINE
STUDIES PROJECT FOR ALGERIA/SPAIN GAS PIPELINE THAT
SONATRACH IS PRESSING FOR COMPLETION OF STUDIES BY
NOVEMBER OF THIS YEAR. WORK WILL INVOLVE FIVE OCEANO-
GRAPHIC SHIPS, OF WHICH TWO WILL BE SPANISH. MAIN
OBJECT IS TO SELECT ROUTE AVOIDING MOROCCAN WATERS.
LINE WOULD START FROM ONE OF SIX POINTS BETWEEN BOU
ZADJAR AND TENES ON ALGERIAN COAST AND END AT ONE OF
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SIX POINTS BETWEEN ADRA AND CARTAGENA ON SPANISH COAST.
WE UNDERSTAND GAS WOULD BE FOR BOTH SPANISH AND FRANCH
MARKETS.

2. COMMENT: ALGERIA'S ANNOUNCED LNG PROGRAM WOULD
EVENTUALLY HAVE CAPACITY OF 73 BILLION CUBIC METERS/YEAR
AND PIPELINE TO ITALY ANOTHER 12. THIS IS ABOUT AS

MUCH AS ALGERIAN RESERVES ARE BELIEVED TO JUSTIFY SO
LINE TO SPAIN WOULD PROBABLY MEAN CANCELLATION OF ONE
OR TWO OF THE LNG PLANTS, POSSIBLY "LNG-4" (5.2 BILLION
CUBIC METERS/YEAR) IN ARZEW AND "LNG CENTER" (10.5) AT
ISSERS, NEITHER OF WHICH HAS REACHED THE STAGE OF CALL
FOR TENDERS.

3. URGENCY OF SPAIN PIPELINE MAY ALSO REFLECT DIFFI-
CULTY IN FINDING FIRM CUSTOMERS FOR TOTAL PLANNED LNG
OUTPUT IF 20 BILLION METERS/YEAR IN PENDING U.S. CON-
TRACTS NOT APPROVED BY USG. PIPELINE (IF FEASIBLE) WOULD
RELIEVE SONATRACH OF NEED TO FIND ADDITIONAL LNG CUS-
TOMERS. STEPHAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: NATURAL GAS, PIPELINES, STUDIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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